



Libby Asbestos Site

FINAL Removal/Remedial Transition Plan 8/02

This transition plan is to ensure that roles, responsibilities, schedules, authority, funding, and contracting resources are understood and agreed to by the Superfund Removal and Remedial Programs. The objective is a seamless transition – maximizing resources, no break in cleanup operations, and no significant changes in cleanup approach.

Roles & Responsibilities

- The Removal Program is currently the lead program in Libby. In general, 2002 is a transition year. After approximately December 2002, the lead will switch to the Remedial Program. Removal will continue residential/commercial cleanups until a remedial contract is in place to continue work, again, approximately December 2002.
- Through the end of 2001, the Removal Program was responsible for all site tasks, including community relations, investigation, and cleanup. Beginning January 2002, the Remedial Program assumed responsibility for all investigation/sampling tasks, except those supporting immediate planned removals and pending litigation. While functioning together in 2002, the OSCs and RPMs have developed a system for scheduling and prioritizing sampling and directing contractors. The RPM has the ultimate authority for sampling decisions during this time.
- The Removal Program remains responsible for all cleanup related tasks until a Remedial Program cleanup contract is in place. A list of complete, ongoing, and upcoming cleanup activities for which the Removal Program remains responsible is attached. In general, OSCs are responsible for ensuring all work initiated through 2002 is completed unless otherwise agreed to. While functioning together in 2002, the OSCs and RPM have developed a system for directing contractors for short-term, time-critical cleanups. While the OSCs have ultimate authority for cleanup decisions through 2002, it is understood that all actions should be coordinated/discussed with the RPM to ensure consistency after transition. After 2002, responsibility for all site tasks not identified in the attached list, including cleanup using removal authority, will shift to the Remedial Program and the RPM.

Authority

To date, all cleanups were removal actions. Cleanup of “primary source” residential/commercial properties will continue to be removal actions under existing action memos. At some point, however, the transition to remedial action may be made. The RPM will act as OSC as necessary after 2002, with support from OSC’s as necessary to ensure continuity. Cleanups after 2004 will be conducted as remedial actions, unless a time-critical situation is identified.

Funding

To this point, all funding for Libby was routed to the Removal Program. During 2002, by agreement of the OSC and RPM, approximately \$4 million was or will be transferred to “remedial” tasks – some under the RAC contract and some under the Volpe IAG. An additional

\$500k in 2001 funds were also transferred to the Volpe IAG. The Remedial Program requested and received no funds from HQ during 2002. A table of forecasted needs for 2003 is attached.

Beginning FY 2003, the responsibility for funding forecasts falls to Remedial. All funding received will be routed to Remedial, even for cleanup/investigation work done using Removal authority. OSCs will provide assistance to the RPM for budget projections. If additional funds are required by the Removal Program after FY 2002 (such as to continuing residential cleanup work until a remedial contract is in place), this will be initiated by the OSC and coordinated with the RPM.

Contracting Resources

Currently, several "contracting vehicles" are being used for work at Libby. The primary ones with likely future dispositions include:

Resource: Removal Program IAG with the Volpe Center with a variety of open work assignments. Most site-related work is currently done under this IAG with OSC's functioning as work assignment managers. A separate work assignment under the IAG was opened for RI/removal support sampling during 2002, with the RPM as the work assignment manager. Some work (landfill) is also being completed under the ERS contract.

Disposition: Most removal related tasks will be essentially complete by the end of 2002. Close out of those work assignments in a timely manner is the responsibility of the OSC. Wherever services may be needed in the future (e.g. database support, community relations support), the OSC must consult with the RPM on the disposition of the work assignment. Close out of the RI work assignment in a timely manner is the responsibility of the RPM. Any changes to scope or extensions of the RI work assignment must be coordinated with the Removal Program. As the Remedial Program assumes responsibility for ongoing removal actions beginning 2003, a transition in contracting approach is envisioned. The RPM envisions a single open-bid contract for all remaining removal work, shifting more toward a fixed price contract structure. The contracting and engineering support necessary will likely either be through the Volpe Center (most likely, unless Volpe cannot perform construction work) or through the RAC contract direct to CDM (CDM has reservations about doing construction work in Libby as well, due to liability concerns). The best approach is being researched now. A work assignment through the Volpe IAG may be necessary. Any such work will be closely coordinated between programs.

Resource: Removal Program IAG with the USGS for analytical support, with several site specific work scopes. OSC is work assignment manager.

Disposition: RPM is currently reworking SOW and will become work assignment manager. RPM will be responsible for timely closeout and coordination with Removal Program.

Resource: Work assignment with SRC for risk-assessment and related support. Chris Weis and RPM are work assignment managers.

Disposition: No change. Continued risk assessment support.

Resource: RAC work assignment with CDM for RI support. RPM is work assignment manager.

Disposition: No change. Most pipeline tasks will be completed by CDM.

Ongoing tasks removal is responsible for completing or maintaining:

1. Remediation/restoration of the Screening Plant (especially Parker property), Flyway, and KDC Bluffs.
2. Remediation/restoration of the Export Plant and restoration of Millwork West.
3. Remediation/restoration of the Middle School Track.
4. Remediation/restoration of the High School Track.
5. Startup of landfill cell at Lincoln County Landfill.
6. Negotiations with BNSF railroad and oversight of PRP lead cleanup.
7. Any other cleanups completed by the Removal Program.